

The Work Session of the Washington Township Committee was called to order by Mayor Tobin at 7:30 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Comm. Short, Popper, Nedd, Mayor Tobin, Attorney Jansen,  
Administrator Gallets, Assistant Administrator Burd

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Comm. Walsh

Adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Observer Tribune and The Morristown Daily Record on January 8, 2008 and was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on the same date. This meeting is being held at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 43 Schooley's Mountain Road, Long Valley, New Jersey. Notices of this meeting were sent as there were requests.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**FIRST AID SQUAD LICENSING PROCEDURE** - **Terry Clancy, President of the Mansfield Emergency Squad**, made a presentation to the Township Committee regarding becoming a licensed agency in the State of New Jersey. The licensing process on which they have embarked holds them to certain standards that, as a private entity enables them to bill insurance companies for services rendered.

#### **PUBLIC PORTION**

**Mayor Tobin opened the meeting to the Public. There being no comments or questions, Mayor Tobin closed the meeting to the public.**

**BLACK OAK GOLF COURSE - CLUBHOUSE** – **Paul Costic, WTMUA** requested a resolution in support of adding the Club House at the Black Oak Golf Course to the new sewer system (as opposed to an independent septic system), and that it be presented to the DEP for consideration. This would eliminate potential environmental problems, resource the MUA's operational problems, and has an added financial benefit throughout the summer months. The DEP thus far has not agreed to amend the current plan to incorporate these requested changes. . The Board of Education from the Regional High School stated that the plans were originally drafted with the hook up of the Golf Course and various Bartley Road houses in mind. As a precedent setting sewer plan, it is essential to pursue the inclusion of the Golf Course in the plan. **Ginny Kesper, Planning Board Official** stated that steps are being taken to pursue approval and an amendment to the plan. Comm. Short and Comm. Walsh will also work together to move along this process. The Township Committee agreed to prepare a resolution to be considered at the Regular Meeting.

#### **PUBLIC PORTION**

**Mayor Tobin opened the meeting to the Public.**

**Greg Jones, Long Valley**, stated that he feels that the DEP was set dead against the Golf Course. He hopes that the logical course of action will take place, and he wishes that the Township Committee will consider this in its endeavors.

**There being no further comments or questions, Mayor Tobin closed the meeting to the public.**

**FAIRMOUNT FIRE COMPANY – AMBULANCE DISPOSITION** – **Tom LoPezzo, 47 Flintlock Drive and Fairmount Fire Captain** stated that he would like to inquire about the disposition of the ambulance requested by the Fairmount Fire Company as recommended by the Township Committee in 2007. Captain LoPezzo communicated that the Fire Company, has been looking forward to the use of the vehicle and suits current approval of the Township Committee. **Mayor Tobin** stated that he is sorry to disappoint the Fire Company, but the Committee needs to obtain every source of revenue for the Township, such as the proceeds from the sale of the ambulance.

**Mayor Tobin suspended the meeting to allow for a five minute break.**

#### **PUBLIC PORTION**

**Mayor Tobin opened the meeting to the Public.**

**Jim Harmon, 7 Abedim Way**, questioned the removal of one of his signs from private property, and its placement on his doorstep with a letter from the Township. He inquired as to the proper procedure for enforcing the sign ordinance and inquired from who's lawn was his sign removed? **Attorney Jansen** explained that he recommended that the current sign ordinance and the proposed sign ordinance not impose specific time periods with regard to political signs. Attorney Jansen further explained that sign placement take into account safety concerns. The last question cannot be answered by the Township Committee.

**There being no further comments or questions, Mayor Tobin closed the meeting to the public.**

### **ORDINANCES**

The Township Committee will consider the introduction of an ordinance entitled, "ORDINANCE FOR DETERMINING POSITIONS ELIGIBLE FOR THE DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PROGRAMS" at the July 21, 2008 Regular Meeting. There was a discussion about the inclusion of the "prosecutor" in this ordinance. The Prosecutor's position will be removed.

The Township Committee will consider the introduction of an ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON WITH REGARD TO ZONING PERMITS, THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND THE DUTIES OF THE ZONING OFFICIAL" at the July 21, 2008 Regular Meeting. There was a discussion as to whether complaints should be written and whether they can be anonymous. The ordinance will be considered for introduction as presented.

RIS, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND CHAPTER 111, LAND USE PROCEDURES, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON WITH RESPECT TO DEVELOPMENT FEES" at the July 21, 2008 Regular Meeting. A resolution will also be considered requesting COAH's approval of the development fees.

### **DISCUSSION**

**ROUND BARN – PICKLE ROAD** – The Pickle Road Round Barn will be moved piece by piece and reconstructed as a useable agricultural structure.

### **PUBLIC PORTION**

**Mayor Tobin opened the meeting to the Public on the issue.**

**Comm. Popper** inquired whether special zoning approvals are needed to accomplish this construction. He was told that no special permits are needed.

**There being no further comments or questions, Mayor Tobin closed the meeting to the public.**

**Administrator Gallets** will write a letter to the Agricultural Board stating that the Township Committee approves of this endeavor.

**TELEVISED MEETINGS - COMCAST** – This item will be postponed for discussion at the Regular Meeting when all Committee Members are present.

**MALLARD COVE ROAD** – An adjacent resident is looking to purchase this plot of land. **Dolores Pecorari, Tax Assessor**, assessed the property at \$192,000. As the land does not seem to have any visible improvements, a public sale can be authorized by resolution and then advertised. **Attorney Jansen** stated that the other alternative is to draft an ordinance and offer the property at private sale to contiguous property owners at fair market value. This item will be further discussed under Attorney/Client Privilege in Executive Session at the Regular Meeting.

**JUDGE/PROSECUTOR POSITIONS** – The Township Committee agreed to advertise for these positions, on the Legal Website and in the Bar's Association Publication, requesting at least three years prior experience.

**HOMELESS SOLUTION – TREES** – The Planning Board is requesting the installation of trees in the Township right-of-way to screen the building. The Township Committee requested a recommendation from the Police Department to determine the feasibility of the request in terms of safety.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE** – This item will be held until the Regular Meeting when Comm. Walsh is in attendance.

**WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN** – This item will be held until the Regular Meeting when Comm. Walsh is in attendance.

**PEACHTREE COAH UPDATE** – Restricted units in the Peachtree development are expiring over the upcoming years. The Township Committee will advise residents that their rents may rise significantly if they are no longer considered COAH apartments. The Township Committee will not take any further action at the moment.

**TOWNSHIP NETWORK SERVER** – **Mayor Tobin** stated that the Township has an issue with backing up business information on the computer system. **Bob Kelly, Municipal Technical Specialist**, was consulted and he presented to the Committee an option for the saving and storage of such data. **Chief Michael Bailey, Police Department** stated that one server to cover the entire municipal complex is being considered to upgrade the existing three servers which are close to capacity. This item will be further discussed at the Regular Meeting.

**BALLOON FESTIVAL** – Toll Brothers had inquired about using tethered balloons for an opening event. **Administrator Gallets** explained that in the past, an application for a circus fair permit was required. Administrator Gallets has not heard anything further from Toll Brothers.

**CALIFON FIELD/PALMER PARK CONCESSION STANDS** – The concession stands will be constructed by the sports league, and will include plumbing and other such amenities at no expense to the Township. **Scott Frech, DPW Superintendent** is in need of another copy of the plan to release the permit for Califon Field.

**FIRE TRUCK BIDS** – This item will be postponed for discussion at the Regular Meeting. Attorney Jansen will be contacted directly by the Fire Department so that a resolution can be prepared for the meeting.

**TRAFFIC MEETING** - **Mayor Tobin** stated that the Department of Transportation and Hackettstown requested a meeting on July 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Hackettstown municipal building to discuss how to improve the traffic flow at Route 57 and Mountain Avenue, and Route 46. Comm. Short will attend the meeting.

**ATTORNEY'S BILLS** – A request was made by Comm. Popper to have all the attorney's bill for 2008 compiled and provided for his review. Mayor Tobin stated that these invoices have been specifically reviewed by the duly appointed municipal officials. Comm. Popper is free to review them since they are public records

**TREASURER** - **Comm. Nedd** confirmed that Comm. Short is currently serving as Mr. Harmon's campaign treasurer and cautioned him to be sensitive to potential conflict of interest.

**ZIP CODES** – **Comm. Popper** stated that a request was made for another zip code. The request was turned down.

**WORKERS COMPENSATION** – **Comm. Popper** stated that he is surprised that a request was made dating back 16 years for a worker's compensation premium adjustment. **Assistant Administrator Burd** stated that it was required to be paid.

**SHARED COURT SERVICES** – **Comm. Popper** noted that **Mr. Gordon** complimented the current court operation.

#### **PUBLIC PORTION**

Mayor Tobin opened the meeting to the Public. There being no comments or questions, Mayor Tobin closed the meeting to the public.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 P.M.